

SD5926/S87506 # 7/B Patent Application 4-27-99

## <u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

Applicants:

Pryor et al.

Group:

2764

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Kemper, M

For:

Method of Predicting a Change in an Economy

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## **AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action of January 19, 1999, and submit the following in complete response thereto, and request reconsideration of the Claims presented.

## In the Claims

Please amend Claims 10-12. Please add Claims 16-19.

Claim 10 (amended). A method of using a multiprocessor computer to predict a change in an economy, where the economy has a plurality of decision makers, comprising the steps of:

- a) representing the plurality of decision makers by a plurality of agents, where each agent
  has internal state and decision rules and can accept input messages from other agents
  and generate output messages for other agents;
- b) assigning each agent to at least one processor in the multiprocessor computer;
- c) establishing initial values for at least part of each agent's internal state;
- d) establishing initial input messages for each agent;
- e) <u>determining a change in the economy by</u>, on each [processing element] <u>processor</u>, determining new values for the internal state of each agent assigned to the [processing

